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Commandant DEFFORGES determined the intensity of gravity on Mt. Hamilton, in October, 1893. He uses a "reversible invertable" pendulum invented and manufactured by himself, by which it is claimed that many errors hitherto very troublesome have been wholly eliminated, and that the results for relative gravity are certainly correct within one part in one hundred thousand.

W. W. C.

THE NEW NOTATION FOR THE HYDROGEN LINES.

A rational system of notation is at last to be given to the fourteen lines in the hydrogen spectrum. Heretofore, three incomplete systems have been used. Professor VOGEL has now suggested (in *Astronomische Nachrichten*, No. 3198) a simple nomenclature which will undoubtedly be employed hereafter by all spectroscopists. The new and old nomenclatures are given in the second and third columns of the following table. The first column contains the approximate wave-lengths of the lines, in tenth-metres :

Wave-Length.	New Name.	Old Name.
6563	H _{α}	C or H _{α}
4861	H _{β}	F or H _{β}
4341	H _{γ}	H _{γ} , often called G
4102	H _{δ}	h or H _{δ}
3969	H _{ϵ}	H or H _{ϵ}
3889	H _{ζ}	α
3836	H _{η}	β
3798	H _{θ}	γ
3771	H _{ι}	δ
3750	H _{χ}	ϵ
3734	H _{λ}	ζ
3722	H _{μ}	η
3712	H _{ν}	θ
3704	H _{ξ}	ι

W. W. C.